[*Note* :—**An asterisk at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—PRIVILEGE MATTER *RE*. CERTAIN COMMENTS IN THE "BHARATHAM".

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member Sri V. Krishnamoorthy has given notice of a matter of privilege relating to the Tamil weekly "Bharatham", dated 6th May 1962. The matter objected to is " இந்த கக்கூஸ் பேச்சு " viz., 'latrine speech', which contains certain comments on an hon. Member's speech in this House.

This matter will be looked into and taken up at the next meeting of the Assembly.

III.—CALLING ATTENTION TO THE SUPPLY OF TEXT BOOKS TO SCHOOL CHILDREN FOR THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member Sri V. Krishnamoorthy will call the attention of the Hon. Minister for Finance and Education to a matter of urgent public importance.

SRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, பள்ளிக்கூடப் பாடப் புத்தகங்களை சர்க்காரே பிரசுரிப்பது என்று இரண்டு மூன்று வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்பாகவே தீர்மானித்தார்கள். ஆனால் அவை சரியான காலத்தில் பிரசுரிக்கப்பட்டு, பள்ளிக்கூடப் பிள்ளைகளுக்கு சரியான நேரத்தில் கிடைக்கும்படி செய்ய . . .

SRI J. MATHA GOWDER: ஸார், ஆன் எ பாயிண்ட் ஆப் ஆர்டர். அவசரமான பொது முக்கியத்துவம் வாய்ந்த ஒரு விஷயத்தை அமைச்சர் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டு வருகிறவர்கள் விஷயத்தை மட்டும் சொல்ல வேண்டும். இவர்கள் பேசுவதற்கு இடம் இல்லை. அமைச்சர் ஸ்டேட்மெண்ட் கொடுப்பார்கள். ஆனால், இப்பொழுது அங்கத்தினர் அவர்கள் பேசிக்கொண்டு இருக்கிறார்கள்.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member Sri V. Krishnamoorthy should only read the notice calling the attention of the Hon. Minister.

* SRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Under Rule 41 of the Assembly Rules I intend to call the attention of the Education Minister to the supply of text books to the school children for the next school year. Though the Government's policy is to provide text books by the Government themselves yet I understand that no final decision has been taken till now, whether to extend the present scheme of providing text books by private publishers or the Controller of Stationery and Printing in making necessary arrangements . . .

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member should not make a speech It is not allowed. He should only read the notice.

SRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Yes, Sir. I would like the Hon. Minister to make a statement regarding the supply of text books to the school children for the next school year.

I now call the attention of the Hon. Minister for Finance and Education to a matter of urgent public importance, viz., supply of text books to school children for the next year.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Mr Speaker, Sir. The policy of nationalisation of text books for elementary schools was accepted by Government on the recommendations of the Legislature Committee on Education. In pursuance of this policy the Government have laid down a phased programme for the publication of language text books both detailed and non-detailed for Standards I to VII. According to this programme, the following nationalised text book will be supplied to schools during 1962–63.

English text books for Standards V, VI and VII.

Tamil text books for Standard VII.

Non-detailed text books in English, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalar, Urdu and Kannada for Standard VII.

2. Under this scheme, the books in English and Tamil, as approved by the expert committees are printed by the Controller of Stationery and Printing. They are distributed through the authorised distributors in various districts. Agreements are executed for this purpose by the authorized book-sellers with the Director of Public Instruction who represents Government. In the case of books in Telugu, Malayalam, Urdu and Kannada the printing and distribution has been entrusted to private presses.

3. The English text books for Standards V and VI had been supplied through these authorized book-sellers even last year and there had been no complaints of delay. For the current year, i.e., 1962–63, Government have already issued orders for the distribution of English text books and the non-detailed text books (for Standard VII) through the same book-sellers.

4. Regarding prescription of text books for schools, the policy is to prescribe those books which are approved by the Text Book Committee. Panchayat Unions can therefore prescribe text books for elementary schools in their area only from among the approved text books. So far as nationalised text books are concerned, there is, obviously, no question of choice.

5. The Member has referred to long delays and even the payment of blackmarket price for the purchase of books in time. The Government have not received any complaints in this regard. If the hon. Member would bring any specific instance to the notice of Government, suitable action will be taken.

IV.—STATEMENT *RE* THE CYCLONE IN COIMBATORE AND MADURAI.

MR. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister for Finance will now make a statement under Rule 82.